

THE DAILY MAGAZINE PAGE

Study of Wall Coverings
Should Precede Usual
Spring House CleaningSome Fundamental Principles To Be Applied To Give
One's Home the Best Appearance With Wall
Paper and Interior Decorations.

By MRS. CHRISTINE FREDERICK

(Copyright 1915 by Mrs. Christine Frederick.)

IT WILL be only a few weeks before all of us are thinking and talking to the wall paper man, the decorator or the painter, for there is hardly a house or an apartment which will not need to have at least one room "done over."

The day will come, since it has already begun to dawn, when instruction in color values and house decoration will be a part of the course of study in every school. Then and then only will all of us be able to choose tasteful furnishings, restful walls and harmonious color schemes. Even if only a few artists be "born" all of us can be taught the principles of art and how to express it in the home.

Let us begin with a study of walls and wall coverings because they indeed are the true framework of the room. They form the background for all pictures, ornaments, curtains and hangings. Therefore they must be chosen first and in such a way that the room is restful and which also express best, their relation to the windows and lighting.

Fundamental Principles.

We can be thankful that the days have almost gone when decorators offer us papers with climbing vines and interlocking rhubarb roots. Gone indeed are most of the medallion wall papers with their huge twelve-inch repeating unit. We have today a selection from a wide class of more neutral papers in shades, such as putty, buff, sand and gray, in which the variety is given not by the color, but by the texture, the stripe, dot, or fleck in the grain of the paper itself.

While these neutral papers are not suitable for primary in every room, it should be borne in mind that:

1. Light colors make rooms appear larger.
2. Rooms opening into each other should not be painted with tones in violent contrast, but that similar or harmonious tones are best.

3. Long narrow hallways and rooms with northern and eastern exposure are preferably treated with warm, light tones.
4. Light backgrounds with undecorated pattern make the best surface on which to show off pictures, hangings and other furnishings.

Effect of Plate Rail.

Low ceilings will appear still lower if the wall space is broken by a frieze plate rail, moulding, or other horizontal line which divides the space, so that it is best, particularly in our small, rented homes, or flats, to avoid papers or coverings with a break in the pattern near the ceiling or half-way down. Horizontal stripes also make ceilings appear higher, and are thus particularly suited to the small, low-ceilinged room. Papers with high gloss finishes, which are attractive in bedrooms, are out of place and undignified for living, dining room or library. Everybody knows, but does not always follow, the point that warm, bright colors and tones are needed in "cool" rooms, with north or eastern exposure, while those receiving southern and western sun can have their walls treated with the less heating colors and shades, particularly grays, blues and neutrals.

Many fabric coverings for walls are on the market. In permanent homes they are most desirable because they do not mar, tear or show wear. The small rented bedroom should be lined or painted, for hygienic reasons, but in all other cases whether fabric or paper covered, choice should be guided by principles of light and art.

Europe Will See No Peace Until
Hearts of Nations Beat in UnisonMiss Vida Sutton, Feminist
and Monologist, Returns
From Study Abroad With
Knowledge of International
Selfishness.Universal Peace Will Come
Only in Decade. When
Leaders Have Overcome
Present Handicaps to Fusion
of Sentiment.

By FLORENCE E. YODER.

"How long?"

That is the question all Europe is asking, that every child of thinking age is wondering, and that the whole world has taken to praying. Little wonder that no conversation is complete without it, and that a recent interview with a prominent woman monologist and suffragist, Miss Vida Sutton, who spent the past year in Europe studying the feminist movement in different countries, should have begun quite precipitately with the question of peace in Europe.

"How long will the war last?" was merely another way of finding out from still another source the possibilities of peace, and Miss Sutton, blue-eyed and golden-haired, with the translucent look of the clairvoyant in her eyes, seemed eminently fitted to answer me.

But, like the fairy in the nursery story, her answer seemed almost beside the point, and the meaning, until she explained it, obscure. "As a man thinketh, so is he." And then she went on to explain, in the simplest of words, just how preparing for war, and fearing war, and thinking about it day in and day out had brought war on Europe.

"It is all so very simple," she said smilingly. "When people want republics, they have revolutions and get them. When they want peace, they have it. And when they want war, they get that, too. If every person in Europe today wanted peace, and was willing to unarm with other countries, there not only would not, but could not, have been any war."

"The war has merely proven that there are still a great number of people in the world who are not broad-minded enough to see the other fellow's point of view. The insistence of every person, in the absolute justice of every detail of his cause, is narrow-mindedness."

"The different countries of Europe are not willing to admit of the existence of any other country. They each wish to be the only country—the country. They have not yet learned to do what America today is. A population such as we have today, fused in mind and feeling, representative of many nations, polyglot, is a much more fertile ground for the planting of ideas of peace than is Europe."

"For there the people are intent not upon a comparison of the plans of the two sides, but upon the while at the same time focusing attention upon one line of work but upon focusing all of the matter of the war and the peace of the world upon the exclusion of common ends."

"The time has come for nations like people to see the value of the imperialist viewpoint. No person can succeed who cannot think more about the thing upon which his mind is bent than about himself. The man trouble with women and the greatest lesson which they have to learn in the life of affairs is that the rather than protesting self-denial, they strive, and not themselves. The whips and scorns of fate in



MISS VIDA SUTTON.

this day and age are not half so often addressed to the person as to that for which he hopes and stands. "The suffragist who cannot see and understand absolutely that for which the anti-suffragist stands, is narrow, and does not stand for the highest womanhood. The women who do big things are the women who are able to harmonize and to expand their efforts along lines which will include the betterment of the many instead of the few."

"It is the same way with nations. Instead of fighting against all amalgamation, against all fusion, they should welcome it, and not only they are willing to try to understand the plans and work of one another will there be peace."

"The moment the heart of individual Europe beats in harmony with the war automatically ceases. Until then we will have one war

and then another war, until the people themselves see the futility of fighting against the first rule of all nature—fusion."

"But can people with minds capable of looking with compassion upon the hopes of others evolve in countries where such a many-sidedness is considered treason?" I asked.

Miss Sutton smiled wearily and shook her head.

"In each country even now, with such a heavy handicap there is a nucleus of people who are thinking and hoping in the free spirit. Each year this number grows, but it will take perhaps another upheaval to free them, and then still another decade to produce leaders who will make universal peace a common sense possibility, and who will educate the individual toward it, instead of toward war."

"As a man thinketh, so is he."

Peter's Adventures in Matrimony

By LEONA DALRYMPLE.

BUT it was no time to say just this, I knew instinctively, with my wife crying in my arms, that I must choose my words with the utmost care.

"Nevertheless, dear," I said, stroking her hair, "you can't help caring for Hugh, I suppose. No matter how we ensure we can't say where our emotions will carry us."

"I don't know why the sight of Aunt Minerva's face gave me such a feeling of comfort, but it did. And the chief reason, I imagine, was because I knew that just as long as Aunt Minerva was here, I should be managed—gently and firmly and in an altogether delightful way."

There was a surprise in store for me. Aunt Minerva, married as she was to the curd, where an old-fashioned carriage was waiting with an old negro on the box, who chuckled and rubbed his hands at the sight of me. Many a time in boyhood days had he driven me about.

"Well," said Aunt Minerva, adjusting her glasses, "the secret's out. I've come here to live, Peter, and I'm all settled. And I'm going to manage the family."

Mary's mother and father, Dad and mother, Mary and I, and Aunt Minerva, all that evening in the old rose garden, and the lawn, "Aunt Minerva, you haven't screened in your back yard."

"I have," said Aunt Minerva crisply, "to keep the cats out and any other back fence extravagances that are likely to disturb my peace. I like to dine out here."

I shook my head hopelessly. "Aunt Minerva," I said, suddenly, "I know perfectly well that you and I are going to quarrel a lot in this dear old rose garden."

"Bless your heart, Peter," cried my aunt, "that's precisely why I moved here. Back home I had nobody to disagree with me."

"I'll drop in nights and argue violently with you," I promised.

"And keep supper waiting," put in Mary ruefully.

We sat and talked until the dusk settled over the rose garden and the stars began to twinkle. And I know Mary and I were glad to get home.

"I'm not," I said, not quite sure whether it was time for this admission or not.

Mary caught my arm.

"What do you mean?" she whispered.

"Oh, Mary, dear," I said, "let's go home tonight. I'm tired out. Let's go home and see if we can't find a restful glimmer of hope for our content."

"Yes," said Mary, "let's go home. After all, I'm tired, too, Peter. I-I don't see how it all happened anyway, and now Hugh seems further away."

"Oh," said Mary, catching her breath with a great sigh of relief, "I believe you are."

Mary clung to me, pouring out her heart in an impulsive flood of eloquence that burned and tore at my heart-strings. We were both very close to getting that night, and drifting further and further, thank God from the two whose lives had touched ours so strangely. And I felt very humble, as a man must ever be when he glimpses forces he has deliberately misunderstood.

"Mary," I cried, "do you after all really love me the best in spite of the fact that you aren't comfortable with me—that I've been preachy and unpleasant?"

"Yes," said Mary, in a low voice, "I do. Every minute I-I seem to realize it more."

I telegraphed that we would be home that day.

"What an answering telegram came," I wired in reply. "Absolutely cured," and Mary and I laughed a little over the clear and honest use of our words, a different interpretation into the words than the one intended.

So after an episode in our lives which we were likely never to forget, Mary and I reached home.

"Oh, Mary," I said, "how nice it is to see people we know."

And sure enough there they all were—Mary's mother and father, and Dad and mother, radiating welcome as we

Habits Are Perfection of
Practice and Do Away
With Wasted Efforts

By DR. LEONARD KEENE HIRSHBERG.

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HABIT is the adaptation of living endeavors to use. It is the elasticity of vital stuff as exemplified in Mahomet's going to the mountain, when the mountain did not budge for the prophet. Since sticks and stones and dead men's bones will not bend by themselves, you must bend them to your will—or walk around them. Seneca bows before the will, the will knuckles to judgment and intellect, and all are auxiliary to a higher force. Habit alone bows to sensation, but it also approximates to itself all things above sensation.

Habit is perfect practice. Repeated trials may be full of failure, but ultimately they are successful habits. Montaigne showed that habits are second nature, but they are also first nature because instincts are efficiently inherited, ready-made habits.

"Ease leads to habits, triumph to ease." So lives he by rule who lives himself to please.

Neither in the investigation of human habits nor in that of animal and plant habits has there ever before been any exacting and complete test of the effect of previous habits upon new ones. Prof. John B. Watson of Johns Hopkins University and his students have made the beginning of such research.

Habit and Tricks.

Prof. Yerkes of Harvard found that the previously formed habits of the dancing mouse interfered seriously with its power to learn new habits. The popular platitudes, "You cannot teach an old dog new tricks" and "A new broom sweeps clean" are thus confirmed by modern science.

In a labyrinth or crystal maze, familiar to those who go to Coney Island and similar resorts, the mouse not previously trained does not make its first correct trip until about the twentieth trial. Those previously trained, however,

quickly find the correct byways and exit every time after six or seven attempts. This proves that men will learn how to run a maze more quickly if they have hitherto worked on an analogous one.

Experiments with trained and untrained pigeons, in a given maze, along with pigeons which had been previously trained in another task, show that the untrained animals learned as quickly as those trained in two other tasks. Moreover, the errors are greater for those with habits previously formed than for those without such habits.

Disadvantages of Habits.

Another truth thus established is that trained animals avoid useless excess and wasted efforts, while untrained ones do not. In other words the more that is learned the less exertion with which new things are learned. It is evident also that habits once acquired interfere with the formation of new habits. For instance, squirrels trained to open one sort of a cage are at a disadvantage as compared with untrained animals when coaxed to try and learn to open a new box.

Possibly these experiments may clear up the experience met with not long ago when a group of the world's greatest Biblical scholars foregathered to edit a new translation of the Bible. One newspaper editor who admitted that he had never made a careful study of the Bible, was the only non-authoritative member of the scholarly group. It turned out that his work surpassed in efficiency, wisdom, knowledge, and skill that of all the others.

Dr. Hirshberg will answer questions for readers of *The Times* on all matters of hygiene and sanitation subjects that are of general interest. He will not undertake to prescribe or offer advice for individual cases. Where the subject is of general interest letters will be answered personally, if a stamped and addressed envelope is enclosed. Address all inquiries to Dr. L. K. Hirshberg, care this office.

ADVICE TO GIRLS

By Annie Laurie

Dear Annie Laurie: I am twenty years old. About a year ago I became engaged to a young man who was attending college. It was a match my parents loved. I was a student in a high school and I recently, when I met an older man, who has been very attentive to me, I declared my love for him. I know that my other affair is not true love. What shall I do? The older man wants to marry me, and has every advantage over the younger man. But my heart is tied because I am wearing another's ring. G. T. B.

RE your letter you do not love the man to whom you are engaged? If you are convinced you never can be happy with him it is your duty to tell him so frankly and bravely. You should not take so radical a step before you are sure that you will not regret it every day of your life.

Dear Annie Laurie: I am a young lady, twenty-one years old, and am crazy about the fellow. But I've got to be interested in me, and I am afraid I am going to be an old maid. What would you advise me to do? ANXIOUS.

Of course, you aren't going to be an old maid just because you haven't yet met the man you can love, and who wants you to be his wife. Twenty-one is far below the average age at which American girls marry. Probably the reason no young man has become really interested in you is because you are "crazy about the fellow." Really, I don't blame them.

Remember, men like to do the pursuing.

Dear Annie Laurie: I have been going with a very nice boy for about a year. He is sixteen, and I am fifteen. He often wants me to kiss him or let him kiss me after he has taken me home from some place. Once he did kiss me, and I became very angry at him. The other night he wanted to kiss me again, and I didn't let him. He told me I was a while. Please tell me so I will know what course to take. MARY JANE.

What a sweet and old-fashioned name you have, Mary Jane, and your letter is as sweet as your name. You did exactly right when you refused to let your boy friend kiss you good-night. No matter how angry he was because you refused, he could not help but like you more for being down in his own heart. Just tell him that you do not think you should let him kiss you. Tell him you think it would be wrong, and ask him if he does not think you are right? Ask him if he would like his sister to permit a boy to kiss her? Don't worry so much about boys, Mary Jane. Forget them for a while—a long while—until you are lots older.

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Chinese Girls on Visit to Capital

Misses M. O. Han and Vonling Lee
Entertained At Tea, Receiving
Notable Guests This Afternoon.

When the peacock banners of the Manchurian dynasty bent in adoration to the tri-color of New China and the republic, many more changes than the mere detroning of an emperor and the establishment in his dynastically established throne of a new dynasty followed in the train of revolution.

Standing for one of the momentous changes in the customs of the China which had endured for thousands of years, are Miss M. O. Han and Miss Vonling Lee—that is the way they inscribed it on the register of the Foxbatan Hotel, and not in the ideographs of their ancestor, but in legible English—who are in this city over the Easter holidays.

For Miss Han and Miss Vonling are among the first women to ever be sent abroad at the expense of their government to be educated with the object of some day playing an important part in the awakening of the Celestial Empire.

And because the average American's idea of the Chinese woman portrays her to his imagination as a demure little house flower, immured behind the gold-

en lattices of her lord and master's household, Miss Han and Miss Vonling are today among the most interesting women who have visited Washington in the month of March.

To begin with, both of the girls, who come of excellent families in Shanghai, speak English fluently and write far more legibly than many Americans, and they possess that gift often rare in foreigners—the ability to wear the (frills and turban) of American women in the costume of their native land.

They are at present students at the Peking University at Peking, N. Y., and are now visiting in Washington under the patronage of Mrs. S. J. Life, principal of the school, who